

O I P E
JAN 05 2007
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: K-0556

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of

Confirmation No.: 8015

Dong Won KANG

Group Art Unit: 1746

Serial No.: 10/717,967

Examiner: Joseph L Perrin

Filed: November 21, 2003

Customer No.: 34610

For: CONTROL PANEL ASSEMBLY FOR WASHING MACHINE

REPLY TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In reply to the Election Requirement mailed on December 5, 2006, Applicant elects Species A (Figures 1-4), with traverse, for further prosecution on the merits. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-27 read on the elected Species. It is also respectfully submitted that claims 1-11, 24 and 25 are generic to all of the Species.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of each of the designated inventions is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of each of the designated inventions would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining designated inventions. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it states that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or

independent inventions." It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: January 5, 2007

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